

March 7th, 1848.

DR. BRIDGES in the Chair.

Dr. Morton read a communication from the Rev. Dr. Bachman, of Charleston, S. C., entitled, "Notes on the generation of the Virginian Opossum (*Didelphus Virginiana*);" which was referred to the following Committee: Dr. Morton, Dr. Leidy, and Dr. Hallowell.

Mr. Pierce stated to the Society, that within the last week, he had had an opportunity of seeing several interesting specimens of a hybrid between the Guinea and the Peacock. They were the property of a farmer residing near Phoenixville, in this State, were about four months old, and possessed in a marked degree the distinctive characters of both parents. He expressed a hope of being enabled to obtain one or more of them for the Society's collections.

March 21st, 1848.

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

A letter was read from Sir Michael Faraday, dated Royal Institution, London, 24th February, 1848, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent.

Dr. Hallowell read a paper, entitled "Descriptions of two new species of *Onychocephalus* from the Western Coast of Africa;" and also communicated some "Notes of the post mortem appearance of a *Cynocephalus papion*, which died at the Menagerie in Philadelphia." Both of which papers were referred to a Committee, consisting of Dr. Leidy, Dr. Morton, and Dr. Wilson.

Dr. Leidy presented a communication from Prof. Haldeman, describing numerous species of *Aphedius*, and designed as a supplement to his Entomological papers, read at previous meetings of the Society, and reported for publication in the next number of the Journal. Referred to the Committee on the former papers.

April 4th, 1848.

MR. PHILLIPS in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Rev. Dr. Savage, addressed to Dr. Hallowell, dated Natchez, Mississippi, March 10th, 1848, desiring numbers of the Proceedings in which he was deficient, and in relation to a communication which he had transmitted for publication in the Proceedings, on the habits of some of the Reptilia of Western Africa.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the "Société Imperiale des Naturalistes de Moscou," dated Moscow, May, 1847, accompanying the donation of the Numbers of the Bulletin of the Society, announced this evening.

The Rev. Dr. Bachman communicated, through Dr. Morton, some

additional observations on the generation of the Opossum, which were read and referred to the Committee on the previous paper, viz. : Drs. Morton, Leidy, and Hallowell.

Dr. Morton also read a letter from Dr. Middleton Michel, of Charleston, S. C., addressed to the Rev. Dr. Bachman, containing some highly interesting "Facts concerning the habits and generation of the Opossum." Referred to the above Committee.

Mr. Henry C. Lea communicated, for publication in the Journal, a paper entitled "Catalogues of the Tertiary Testacea of the United States; by Henry C. Lea." Referred to a Committee, consisting of Dr. Morton, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Conrad.

Dr. Leidy read a paper describing a new fossil genus of Ruminantoid Pachyderms, (*Merycoölodon Culbertsonii*;) which was referred to Drs. Wilson, Morton, and Pickering.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a copy of the Proceedings, as far as published, be presented to the Rev. Dr. T. S. Savage.

On motion, also *Resolved*, That a copy of the first number of the New Series of the Journal be presented to M. Fischer de Waldheim.

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April 11th, 1848.

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From Prideaux John Selby, Esq., dated Twizell House, Northumberland, England, March 14th, 1848, returning acknowledgments for his election as a correspondent:—

From Richard Brown, Esq., dated Sydney Mines, Cape Breton, N. S., March 1st, 1848, offering for the acceptance of the Academy, a number of interesting coal fossils from that region:—

From Mr. Joseph Smith, of Amherst, N. S., dated March 29th, 1848, in relation to the "Joggins main seam of Coal" in that vicinity:—

From the Secretary of the American Philosophical Society, dated April 9th, 1848, acknowledging the receipt of the last number of the Proceedings.

A letter was read from the Rev. Dr. T. S. Savage, addressed to Dr. Hallowell, dated Natchez, Miss., Jan. 10th, 1848, containing the following interesting information, in relation to the habits of some specimens of Natural History from Africa, recently presented by the writer to the Society.

"It was my intention to have made an earlier communication on the habits of several of the specimens of Natural History, which I sent to the cabinet of the Academy of Natural Sciences, from Liberia, but having been much occupied in matters of higher moment, I have not found the time to do it, and, even now, I must defer my observations on the ants, &c.

At the present time, I propose to give a few facts respecting but one specimen of the *Saurians*, (of which I send several, some of which I think will prove to be new) and two *Ophidians*.

1. *Crocodylida*. At this distance of time, I cannot say whether I found this